

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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FROM: NEW YORK

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TO: Secretary of State

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RE: CUBA

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NARASIMHAN CALLED YOST THIS MORNING TO SEEK EARLY CONVERSATION ON ORGANIZATION AND FINANCING OF RED CROSS INSPECTION OF SHIPPING EN ROUTE TO CUBA.

HE MENTIONED FOL TENTATIVE IDEAS. ASSUMING INSPECTION MUST BE AT SEA BECAUSE OF CUBAN ATTITUDE, ALL SOV VESSELS EN ROUTE TO CUBA WOULD BE ASKED TO PASS CLOSE TO SPECIFIC POINT WHERE RED CROSS INSPECTORS WOULD BE STATIONED. UNDER THESE ARRANGEMENTS ONLY 3 OR 4 NEUTRAL VESSELS WOULD BE REQUIRED TO PERFORM ACTUAL ACCOSTING AND BOARDING. NARASIMHAN WAS THINKING IN TERMS OF ABOUT 50 INSPECTORS WHO WOULD BE FIRST BROUGHT TO UN NY FOR BRIEFING.

HE WISHED PARTICULARLY TO LEARN OUR POINT OF VIEW ON FINANCING. HE BELIEVES THIS OPERATION CANNOT BE FINANCED BY UN UNLESS SPECIAL SC AUTHORIZATION THEREFOR IS OBTAINED. IN ABSENCE SUCH AUTHORIZATION, FINANCING COULD BE CARRIED OUT BY ICRC ASSESSMENTS ON ITS MEMBERS OR BY CONTRIBUTIONS, AS IN CASE WEST NEW GUINEA, FROM CHIEFLY INTERESTED PARTIES. HE ESTIMATED COST OF PERSONNEL MIGHT BE ABOUT \$1,500 PER HEAD PER MONTH, INCLUDING TRAVEL TO AND FROM CARIBBEAN. TAKING INTO ACCOUNT CHARTER OF 3 OR 4 NEUTRAL VESSELS, HE THOUGHT TOTAL EXPENSE OF FIRST MONTH MIGHT NOT BE MORE THAN \$100,000. IF INSPECTION PROLONGED FOR SECOND MONTH COST OF THAT MONTH MIGHT BE EVEN LESS AS TRAVEL EXPENSE WOULD DECLINE.

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-2- 1586, NOVEMBER 1, 1 PM, FROM NEW YORK

WE WOULD APPRECIATE MOST URGENT GUIDANCE FROM DEPT TO PERMIT DETAILED DISCUSSIONS WITH NARASIMHAN. IN MEANTIME WE SHALL ALSO ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN FURTHER CLARIFICATION OF SOV VIEWS ON THIS SUBJECT.

STEVENSON

BAP

NOTE: Advance copies to IO and SS-O 11/1/62 - CWO-M.

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